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BOOK REVIEWS.

The Annotated Corporation Laws of all the United States. By Robert C. Cumming, Frank B. Gilbert, and Henry L. Woodward, of the Albany, N. Y., Bar. J. B. Lyon Co., Albany, N. Y., 1899. Sheep, 3 Vols.

Not alone lawyers, but managers of corporations as well, will find that they have much for which to thank the authors of this work. Perhaps there is no one subject in the law for which there is such constant need to refer to the several State statutes, as there is in the law of corporations. In this work the authors have given the laws of each State separately, as they relate to the management and liabilities of corporations. To show the extent and value of the work it is only necessary to point to such topics as the appointment, duties and powers of receivers on dissolution or insolvency, taxation of property, earnings and franchises, and restrictions on the creation and operations of trusts. The statutes of all the States on these topics and others relating to corporations, are as important as the statutes of one's own State, and hence the great value of a single work which contains them all. The authors, too, in giving the statutes in verbatim, rather than digested, have removed the necessity of one desiring to use them from referring to the originals. These amended to date, together with the notes and citations of recent cases, on their interpretation, will make an invaluable work to the corporation lawyer's library, as well as to any that is fairly complete. We congratulate the authors on its completion, and feel assured that it will meet with the general approval that it deserves.

The Legal Effects of Mortgages and Pledges of Rents and Profits of Real Estate. By Henry M. Hoyt, of Spokane, Washington.

Mr. Hoyt has given to the profession, in this short paper, a clear, concise statement of the law of mortgages of rents, with especial application to recent statutes passed by the State of Washington. Whether or not a statute can limit or prohibit a mortgage of rents is an open question, which is yet to be decided in many States. In giving this article on the law of Washington, the author has given some food for thought to legislators as well as lawyers.

Estee's Pleading. Edited by Charles T. Boone. 3 Vols. Bancroft-Whitney Co., 1898.

The present edition of this standard work is the fourth. The early part of the book is taken up with a discussion of such general propositions of Procedure, Jurisdiction, Place of Trial, etc., followed by a concise statement of the general principles of pleading. Part third treats of Complaints, subdivided, according to the form of the action, into actions by and against particular persons, individually, in representative character and official capacity; for debt; upon written instruments for payment of money only; damages for

breach of contract; for injury to person and property, etc., etc. The discussion of the pleadings of the defendant follows the same lines. The interspersion of approved forms applicable to each action and the brief outline of the substantive law on which the different actions are based, make the book of inestimable value and convenience to the general practitioner in code States. We should not recommend the book to the student, as there are other works which afford a more comprehensive and scientific treatment of pleading, and are consequently better adapted to his particular wants. The notes are very full and contain citations of the recent decisions.

Index Digest of Bankruptcy Decisions, Containing the Decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1800 to 1899, and of the Federal and State Courts of Last Resort Under the Act of 1867. By Edwin C. Brandenburg, LL.M. Chicago. Callaghan & Co., 1899. Sheep, pp. LXXVIII and 493.

The decisions under the National Bankruptcy Law of 1898 are, of course, few in number. Consequently lawyers are forced to utilize decisions under former laws to guide them in construing it, or to depend on the unaided light of reason. In this volume Mr. Brandenburg has given us all the material of the former sort which can be of use. All the cases are here given, and are given more fully than is possible in any treatise on bankruptcy. That the work is well done is proved by the reputation of the author and of the publishers. The book, however, is to be used with caution, and the law of 1867 compared at every step with that of 1898, for the latter has made important changes, for instance, making the trustee the representative of creditors far more fully than the assignee under the old system, thus giving him rights in avoiding contracts, etc., which the assignee did not have. It is because of such differences that the digest should be used with some manual such as the author's own work on bankruptcy, which gives the laws of 1867 and 1898, and points out their differences. So used, the book undoubtedly will find favor with practitioners in bankruptcy.

General Digest, American and English, Annotated. Vol. VI. New Series. Rochester, N. Y. The Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Co., 1899. Pp. VIII and 2345, XXXIII.

The chief difficulty in the way of writing a satisfactory review of the latest volume of the General Digest is to write anything new concerning the merits of the publication. Members of the profession so generally know its good points; its complete digest of current decisions, American and English; its helpful annotations, and its list of cases criticised, distinguished and overruled, that anything further said about them is a twice told tale. The uniform excellence of the succeeding volumes prevents any criticism which is not inevitable in any digest. One thing especially commendable is the good typographical work. The volume is as handy as it could well be made, and the type and paper please the eye, especially as compared with some other similar works. For a lawyer who wishes in his brief to be abreast with the times there is no guide post which will be of greater assistance in finding what the recent law is on the subject he is looking up. And this, as we understand it, is what is wanted of a good digest.